



City School District of Albany Enrollment Impact 2019-20

Edmund J. O'Neal Middle School of Excellence

DATE: MARCH 12, 2019



Overview Context for Tonight's Discussion

Three primary factors have contributed to our re-evaluation of enrollment options for 2019-20:

- **Enrollment growth at O'Neal Middle School**
 - The building is not big enough to serve all students designated to attend there through our temporary enrollment pattern
 - Need to reduce enrollment at O'Neal while providing high-quality academic opportunities for all students
- **District-wide budget deficit for 2019-20**
 - Current estimated gap of \$6.7 million before any tax-levy increase or other budget savings
- **Elementary enrollment decline**
 - North Albany Academy, Arbor Hill Elementary School, Sheridan Preparatory Academy



Original Timeline Repurposing North Albany Academy

Proposed conversion of North Albany Academy into a permanent 650-seat middle school to open in 2023-24:

- **April 2021 -- July 2023 (pending voter approval in May 2019)**
 - Renovations to expand Arbor Hill
 - Site work at North Albany in anticipation of full renovation and expansion in 2022-23
 - North Albany fully enrolled PK-5 through the 2021-22; Albany International Center remains at North Albany
- **2022-23 school year**
 - North Albany students PK-5 enroll at expanded Arbor Hill; Albany International remains at North Albany
- **Fall 2023**
 - North Albany reopens as a 650-student middle school
 - Albany International relocates (location TBD based on 2020-21 demographic study)

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2019-20 Enrollment Options and Budget Impact

Option 1 (*formerly Option B*):

- Arbor Hill and North Albany both expand to add sixth grade
- O'Neal has one team of sixth grade (Schuyler and Sheridan Prep students only) and grades 7-8
- **Budget impact:** No additional staffing required; no budget savings

What it would mean for current O'Neal students:

- A smaller sixth grade and fewer students in the building overall (reduction of about 80 students)

What it would mean for current Sheridan Prep students:

- Sheridan Prep fifth-graders continue to attend middle school at O'Neal in a smaller sixth grade

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2019-20 Enrollment Options and Budget Impact

Option 2 (formerly Option C 1.5):

- North Albany Academy is repurposed for sixth grade only
- Full O'Neal sixth grade moves to North Albany; O'Neal continues to serve grades 7-8
- North Albany current students PK-4 enroll in other district elementary schools
- **Budget impact:** No additional staffing required; estimated budget savings \$1.67 million-\$2 million depending on enrollment options for North Albany elementary students

What it would mean for current O'Neal students:

- No enrollment changes; students in grades 6-7 move up to grades 7-8 at O'Neal
- A significant decrease in total enrollment in the building

What it would mean for current Sheridan Prep students:

- Sheridan Prep fifth-graders enroll in the new, temporary sixth grade at North Albany

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2019-20 Enrollment Options and Budget Impact

Option 3 (formerly Option D):

- North Albany is repurposed as a small, temporary middle school serving students currently in fifth grade at North Albany and Schuyler
- Students in fifth grade at Arbor Hill and Sheridan Prep continue to attend middle school at O'Neal with a smaller sixth grade
- North Albany current students PK-4 enroll in other district elementary schools
- **Budget impact:** No additional staffing required; estimated budget savings \$1.67 million-\$2 million depending on enrollment options for North Albany elementary students

What it would mean for current O'Neal students:

- A smaller sixth grade and fewer students in the building overall

What it would mean for current Sheridan Prep students:

- Sheridan Prep fifth-graders continue to attend middle school at O'Neal in a smaller sixth grade

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Re-Enrollment Options for North Albany Families

If the Board of Education selects Option 2 or Option 3, families of North Albany students currently in prekindergarten through fourth grade would have the following enrollment options in other district elementary school for 2019-20:

- **Re-Enrollment Option 1:**
 - North Albany-zoned students attend Arbor Hill
 - All other current North Albany students attend their zoned schools
- **Re-Enrollment Option 2:**
 - North Albany-zoned students offered open-enrollment options throughout the district
 - All other current North Albany students attend their zoned schools

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Next Steps

Remaining school-based meetings for all schools that would be affected:

- **Monday, March 18** – Schuyler Achievement Academy, 6 p.m.
- **Tuesday, March 19** – Arbor Hill Elementary School, 6 p.m.

Board of Education meetings:

- **Thursday, March 21** – North Albany Academy, 7 p.m.
- **Thursday, April 4** – Albany High School, 7 p.m.

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Questions

